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## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOOD WEEK FOR ACP: CS

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID THIS WEEK HAD BEEN A VERY GOOD WEEK FOR THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME (ACP).

"AS YOU KNOW ON WEDNESDAY THE WESTERN HARBOUR CROSSING BILL WENT THROUGH. TODAY, CENTRAL WANCHAI RECLAMATION WAS APPROVED. AND EARLIER IN THE WEEK THE WEST KOWLOON EXPRESSWAY (NORTH SECTION) CONTRACT WAS LET FOR OVER \$1 BILLION," SIR DAVID SAID.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT NOW GOT OVER \$40 BILLION OF CONTRACTS WHICH WERE UNDERWAY ON THE ACP.

"THEY'RE ALL GOING WELL. THEY ARE ON TIME. AND THEY ARE WITHIN BUDGET. AND THIS IS A VERY GOOD RECORD FOR AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT SUCH AS THIS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

"AND AS I AM SURE YOU CAN ALL SEE NOW THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME IS REALLY GETTING UNDERWAY AND IS MAKING TREMENDOUSLY GOOD PROGRESS. SO IT'S BEEN A VERY GOOD WEEK FOR US," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID ALSO SAID HE HOPED THAT THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE MEETING WOULD BE HELD VERY SOON, ADDING THAT THERE WAS NO DATE YET FIXED.

"BUT I DO HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE ONE WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO AND THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE PROGRESS.

"WE DO CLEARLY WANT TO PUT THE LAST PIECE OF THE JIGSAW IN PLACE AND GET AGREEMENT ON THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE AIRPORT AND THE RAILWAY AND THEN WE CAN GO ABSOLUTELY FULL STEAM AHEAD. BUT WE ARE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS."

ON THE QUESTION OF THE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, SIR DAVID SAID THERE WAS STILL SOME DISCUSSION TO GO.

"BUT I AM CONVINCED THAT WITH GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES, AND THERE'S CERTAINLY PLENTY OF THAT I BELIEVE, THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO REACH A CONCLUSION QUITE SOON."

ON THE DRAFTING OF THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY BILL, HE SAID THE PROCESS WAS GOING AHEAD WELL AND HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT APPROVAL WOULD BE SOUGHT IN DUE COURSE.

HE SAID IT HAD TO BE DISCUSSED WITH THE CHINESE SIDE FIRST AND THEN WITH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ON THE LEGCO WORK, SIR DAVID SAID ALTHOUGH THERE HAD BEEN QUITE A FEW CONTROVERSIES IN THIS LEGCO SESSION, THERE HAD BEEN A GROWING UNDERSTANDING OF THE WAY IN WHICH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE OFFICIALS AND THE UNOFFICIALS, HAD WORKED TOGETHER.

HE SAID IT HAD BEEN A GOOD RECORD TO HAVE OVER 80 BILLS THROUGH THIS SESSION.

"WE HAVE GOT ALL OUR BUSINESS THROUGH WITH A GREAT DEAL OF CO-OPERATION ON BOTH SIDES. AND I THINK IT IS A VERY HEALTHY SIGN TO SHOW THAT DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG IS WORKING VERY WELL."

LORRY PROTEST AT MAN KAM TO

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THE GOVERNMENT TONIGHT (FRIDAY) CALLED ON LORRY DRIVERS INVOLVED IN THE MAN KAM TO PROTEST TO CLEAR THEIR VEHICLES SO THAT OTHER MOTORISTS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS COULD GO ABOUT THEIR NORMAL BUSINESS.

"WHATEVER THEIR GRIEVANCES, THE DRIVERS SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE GREAT INCONVENIENCE TO OTHER ROAD USERS WHOSE LIVELIHOODS COULD BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE CATEGORICALLY DENIED CLAIMS BY SOME DRIVERS THAT THERE WERE ONLY A FEW IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS CLEARANCE KIOSKS OPERATING ON THE HONG KONG SIDE.

"WE HAVE MAINTAINED FIVE ARRIVAL AND FIVE DEPARTURE COUNTERS, WHICH IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE TO MATCH THE FACILITIES ON THE CHINA SIDE," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE INCIDENT STARTED AT 9.40 AM WHEN A DRIVER RETURNING FROM CHINA COMPLAINED ABOUT THE ALLEGED SLOW PROCESSING OF CHINESE CUSTOMS AND STOPPED HIS LORRY AT A ROUNDABOUT NEAR MAN KAM TO. OTHER DRIVERS SOON JOINED HIM, BLOCKING THE ROAD WITH THEIR TRUCKS.

IN AN ATTEMPT TO DIFFUSE THE SITUATION, THE POLICE ARRANGED A MEETING WITH THE BORDER LIAISON OFFICE ON THE CHINESE SIDE, BUT THE DRIVERS FAILED TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A GROUP OF OPERATORS AND LORRY OWNERS ARRIVED ON THE SCENE IN THE EARLY AFTERNOON. THEIR ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE THE DRIVERS TO DISCONTINUE THE PROTEST WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

"NOW THAT THE BORDER HAS CLOSED FOR THE NIGHT, WE HOPE THE DRIVERS WILL REMOVE THEIR LORRIES SO THAT NORMAL TRAFFIC CAN RESUME IN THE MORNING," HE SAID.

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SALE OF OVERSEAS TRUST BANK LIMITED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT AGREEMENT HAD NOW BEEN REACHED IN PRINCIPLE WITH GUOCO GROUP LIMITED FOR THE SALE BY THE GOVERNMENT TO IT OF THE ENTIRE ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL OF OVERSEAS TRUST BANK, LIMITED (OTB).

A FORMAL SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED ON OR BEFORE JULY 30 THIS YEAR, AT WHICH TIME A MORE DETAILED ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: "THE SALE OF OTB HAS BEEN ONGOING FOR THE LAST NINE MONTHS, ADOPTING A PROCESS WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO ENSURE THAT TERMS OF THE SALE ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THAT FAIR COMPETITION EXISTS AMONG POTENTIAL BIDDERS."

"WE ARE PLEASED THAT THIS PROCESS IS NOW NEARING SUCCESSFUL FRUITION. WHILE THE DETAILED TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT REMAIN TO BE FINALISED, WE ARE PLEASED TO SAY THAT AGREEMENT ON THE PRINCIPAL POINTS HAS BEEN REACHED AND THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL PROVIDE FOR A HIGH LEVEL OF PROTECTION FOR THE FUTURE OF STAFF OF OTB.

"IN ADDITION THE CONSIDERATION REPRESENTS A SUBSTANTIAL PREMIUM OF HK\$420 MILLION OVER THE ADJUSTED NET ASSET VALUE OF THE OTB GROUP AS AT JUNE 30 THIS YEAR WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING AUDITED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION APPOINTED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE THREE-MEMBER BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION (BEC), AN INDEPENDENT BODY TO TAKE CHARGE OF ELECTORAL MATTERS INCLUDING THE DELINEATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES.

THE BEC, ESTABLISHED UNDER THE BEC ORDINANCE, WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEWING THE BOUNDARIES OF GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

IT WILL ALSO TAKE UP THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONDUCT AND SUPERVISION OF THESE ELECTIONS AFTER THE ADMINISTRATION HAS COMPLETED THE COMING BY-ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REGIONAL COUNCIL FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL SAI KUNG CONSTITUENCY RESPECTIVELY.

THE BEC WILL SUPERVISE THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS, REGULATE THE PROCEDURE FOR ELECTIONS AND MAKE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE THAT ELECTIONS ARE CONDUCTED OPENLY, HONESTLY AND FAIRLY.

IT WILL ALSO REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR ON ANY MATTER RELATING TO AN ELECTION.

THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE WOO KWOK-HING AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BEC FOR A PERIOD OF THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS. MR ROBERT GEORGE KOTEWALL, QC AND PROFESSOR LEUNG CHI-KEUNG, JP HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AS MEMBERS FOR A TENURE OF THREE YEARS.

ALL APPOINTMENTS TAKE EFFECT FROM TODAY.

MR JUSTICE WOO, 47, WAS BORN IN HONG KONG AND IS MARRIED WITH FOUR CHILDREN. HE IS CURRENTLY A HIGH COURT JUDGE, HAVING JOINED THE BENCH IN 1992 AFTER YEARS OF PRIVATE PRACTICE IN HONG KONG. HE BECAME A QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN 1987.

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MR JUSTICE WOO PREVIOUSLY SERVED ON THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARDS FROM 1989 TO 1991, AND THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS TRIBUNAL FROM 1987 TO 1992.

HE WAS A COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION FROM 1983 TO 1985, A LEGAL ADVISER TO CITIZENS UNDER THE LAW SOCIETY FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME FROM 1980 TO 1985 AND THE CHIEF EXTERNAL EXAMINER OF THE POST GRADUATE COURSE IN LAWS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG FROM 1987-88.

HE HAS BEEN THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND BUSINESS, HONG KONG SHUE YAN COLLEGE AND A MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK STATE BAR SINCE 1986.

MR KOTEWALL, 42, IS MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN. HE IS A QUEEN'S COUNSEL IN PRIVATE PRACTICE.

HE IS CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION ON THE RULES COMMITTEE, A NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION AND A MEMBER OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMPANY LAW REFORM.

MR KOTEWALL PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW (INLAND REVENUE) BETWEEN 1985 AND 1991.

PROFESSOR LEUNG, 58, IS THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG. HE WAS APPOINTED A JUSTICE OF PEACE IN 1992.

HE IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY SERVICE, CURRENTLY BEING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND A MEMBER OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, METRO PLANNING COMMITTEE, THE SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND THE COUNCIL MEMBER OF HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE.

HE WAS PREVIOUSLY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORT HONG KONG SECTION FROM 1986 TO 1987. PROFESSOR LEUNG IS MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BEC, THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE WOO KWOK-HING, WILL MEET THE PRESS TODAY (FRIDAY) AT 5 PM AT ROOM 126A, EAST WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, CENTRAL. YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND.

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GOVERNOR ON LIBRARIES

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TO THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THE PROVISION OF LIBRARIES IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT COMMUNITY SERVICES THAT ANYONE CAN PROVIDE.

"I LOVE BOOKS AND THEREFORE I LOVE LIBRARIES.

"BOOKS EDUCATE, BOOKS INFORM, BOOKS GIVE HOPE, BOOKS GIVE COMFORT, BOOKS INSPIRE," MR PATTEN SAID, WHEN OPENING THE TSUEN WAN CENTRAL LIBRARY THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

HE SAID WHOEVER INVENTED THE IDEA OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES DESERVED "A SPECIALLY ELEVATED PLACE IN HEAVEN".

STROLLING DOWN THE MEMORY LANE, MR PATTEN SAID HE COULD STILL REMEMBER AS A CHILD GOING EVERY SATURDAY MORNING TO THE NEAREST PUBLIC LIBRARY.

"I CAN REMEMBER THE EXCITEMENT OF THAT.

"I CAN REMEMBER THE DIFFICULTY OF CHOOSING WHICH THREE BOOKS, WE WERE ONLY ALLOWED THREE BOOKS TO TAKE OUT OF THE SCORES THAT I WANTED TO READ."

HE SAID LIBRARIES HAD A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ENCOURAGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO READ.

"AND IF I MAY SAY SO THEY ALSO HAVE A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ENCOURAGING ADULTS TO GO BACK TO BOOKS AND TO START READING AGAIN."

HE ALSO PRAISED THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SETTING UP A NETWORK OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACROSS THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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LDC DEVELOPMENT SCHEME APPROVED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED UNDER THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE FOR THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LDC) TO REDEVELOP AN OLD AREA IN THE HEART OF MONG KOK WITH A PACKAGE OF COMPREHENSIVE FACILITIES.

THE AREA, FOR WHICH THE LDC HAS MAPPED OUT A DEVELOPMENT PLAN UNDER ITS URBAN RENEWAL SCHEME, COVERS AN AREA OF 1.59 HECTARES BOUND BY ARGYLE STREET, RECLAMATION STREET, SHANTUNG STREET AND PORTLAND STREET.

THE "ARGYLE STREET/SHANGHAI STREET DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN" PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK TO RESTRUCTURE THE EXISTING LAND USE PATTERN OF THE OLD AREA AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS.

AT THE MOMENT, THE CONDITIONS OF THE AREA LEAVE MUCH TO BE DESIRED.

THE BUILDINGS THERE, MAINLY FIVE TO 11 STOREYS HIGH, ARE IN A DETERIORATING AND POOR CONDITION, WITH SOME HAVING NO PROPER SANITARY FACILITIES.

THE POOR CONDITIONS OF THE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, COUPLED WITH ON-STREET COOKED FOOD STALLS NEARBY, HAVE ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE ENVIRONMENT.

CONGESTION IN THE STREETS HAS BEEN AGGRAVATED BY ON-STREET LOADING AND UNLOADING ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUS TERMINUS ALONG PORTLAND STREET AND NELSON STREET, WHILE THE NARROW PAVEMENTS CAN HARDLY COPE WITH A HIGH VOLUME OF PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.

PRIVATE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA HAS BEEN HINDERED BY A NUMBER OF FACTORS, SUCH AS THE SMALL SIZE OF LOTS AND FRAGMENTED OWNERSHIP.

THUS A COMPREHENSIVE URBAN RENEWAL OF THE AREA BY THE LDC IS REQUIRED SO AS TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND ACHIEVE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF LAND.

THE LDC'S DEVELOPMENT SCHEME INTENDS TO PROVIDE MAINLY COMMERCIAL, GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY FLOOR SPACES ACCOMMODATING A MIXTURE OF OFFICE, RETAIL AND HOTEL USES.

IN ADDITION, A PUBLIC OPEN SPACE OF ABOUT 1,100 SQUARE METRES AND A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS TERMINAL WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

UNDER THE SCHEME, HONG LOK STREET AND PART OF NELSON STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND INCORPORATED WITHIN THE DEVELOPMENT SITE.

THE WELL-KNOWN PET-BIRD STALLS, A COOKED FOOD CENTRE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES, WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY PLANNED TO BE RELOCATED IN ANOTHER LDC DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR SHAMCHUN STREET IN THE SAME DISTRICT, WILL NOW BE PROVIDED IN THIS DEVELOPMENT SCHEME.

THIS FOLLOWS THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD'S DECISION TO AMEND THE SHAMCHUN STREET DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN TO MEET OBJECTIONS. THE SHAMCHUN STREET SCHEME WILL NOT BE PURSUED FURTHER AND THIS HAS ALSO BEEN ENDORSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

THE "ARGYLE STREET/SHANGHAI STREET DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN" WAS EXHIBITED BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN MARCH 1991 AFTER THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD WAS CONSULTED IN NOVEMBER, 1990.

THE DISTRICT BOARD HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME PLAN WILL IMPROVE THE GENERAL ENVIRONMENT AND THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN THE AREA.

THE SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO AFFECT ABOUT 2,200 PEOPLE AND 460 PROPERTY INTEREST.

AT PRESENT, THE LDC IS ACQUIRING THE AFFECTED PROPERTIES THROUGH NEGOTIATION WITH THE PROPERTY OWNERS.

SHOULD IT BE UNABLE TO ACQUIRE ALL THE PROPERTIES AFFECTED, THE LDC MAY REQUEST THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL THE RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE.

UNDER THE LDC ORDINANCE, THE SECRETARY MAY ONLY RECOMMEND RESUMPTION WHEN HE IS SATISFIED THAT THE LDC HAS TAKEN ALL REASONABLE STEPS TO ACQUIRE THE LAND ON FAIR AND REASONABLE TERMS BUT IS STILL UNABLE TO DO SO.

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TSUEN WAN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) APPROVED AN APPLICATION BY THE HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY FOR REDEVELOPING AN OLD AREA IN TSUEN WAN IN A COMPREHENSIVE MANNER.

THE AREA, BOUNDED BY SHA TSUI ROAD, TAI HO ROAD, YEUNG UK ROAD AND WO TIK STREET, IS ABOUT TWO HECTARES.

WHEN REDEVELOPED, IT WILL HAVE MORE THAN OVER 1,000 RESIDENTIAL FLATS WITH RETAILING FACILITIES, A PUBLIC OPEN SPACE OF ABOUT 3,700 SQUARE METRES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SUCH AS NURSERY, HOSTEL AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUS AND TAXI TERMINUS.

THE WHOLE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN MID-1999.

A GROUP OF PERSONS AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT SUBMITTED A PETITION LETTER TO THE BOARD TODAY.

THEIR CONCERNS OVER THE COMPENSATION AND REHOUSING ARRANGEMENTS WERE NOTED BY THE BOARD.

HOWEVER, THE BOARD CONSIDERED THAT COMPENSATION WAS A MATTER BETWEEN THE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND THOSE PERSONS AFFECTED WHEREAS THE BOARD WAS CONFINED TO CONSIDER THE MERITS OF THE PROPOSAL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD SAID THE AREA HAD BEEN DESIGNATED AS COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA (CDA) IN THE DRAFT TSUEN WAN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN BECAUSE IT WAS STRATEGICALLY LOCATED NEAR THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AND TSUEN WAN TRANSPORT COMPLEX.

AT PRESENT, THE AREA IS PREDOMINANTLY OCCUPIED BY OBSOLESCENT, PRIVATE TENEMENT BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED BEFORE 1966 WITH A RELATIVELY LOW DEVELOPMENT INTENSITY.

IT IS GENERALLY LACKING IN INFRASTRUCTURE, OPEN SPACE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT WOULD PROVIDE IMPROVEMENT TO THE TOWN CENTRE AND WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE IN TSUEN WAN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE DRAFT TSUEN WAN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN WAS EXHIBITED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN OCTOBER 1990.

OBJECTIONS TO THE ZONING WERE CONSIDERED AND HEARD IN DECEMBER 1991.

THE MAIN CONCERN OF THE OBJECTORS WAS RELATED TO THE COMPENSATION AND REHOUSING WHICH ARE OUTSIDE THE PURVIEW OF THE BOARD.

NEVERTHELESS, THE BOARD HAD THOROUGHLY CONSIDERED THE INTERESTS OF THOSE AFFECTED AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST WHICH COULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA AND DECIDED NOT TO AMEND THE LAND USE ZONING.

THE MASTER LAYOUT PLAN SUBMITTED BY THE HOUSING SOCIETY WAS GENERALLY IN LINE WITH THE BOARD'S INTENTION TO REDEVELOP THE AREA COMPREHENSIVELY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES ENDORSED BY THE BOARD.

SUBSEQUENT TO THE BOARD'S APPROVAL, THE MASTER LAYOUT PLAN WOULD BE DEPOSITED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AND THE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY WOULD PROCEED WITH FURTHER NEGOTIATION WITH THE PERSONS AFFECTED.

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#### NEW FRANCHISE TO NEW LANTAO BUS

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS GRANTED A NEW FRANCHISE TO THE NEW LANTAO BUS CO (NLB) TO CONTINUE OPERATING THE SEVEN EXISTING BUS ROUTES ON THE LANTAU ISLAND FOR A PERIOD OF TWO MORE YEARS FROM APRIL 1, 1995.

A NEW FRANCHISE RATHER THAN AN EXTENSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO UPDATE THE PROVISIONS IN THE FRANCHISE, PARTICULARLY THOSE RELATING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S MONITORING OF NLB'S BUS OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.

IN LINE WITH THE FRANCHISES GRANTED TO CHINA MOTOR BUS AND CITY BUS LAST YEAR, THE NLB WILL BE REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH PASSENGER LIAISON GROUPS AS A MEASURE TO STRENGTHEN CUSTOMER LIAISON.

IT WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WITH A COMPUTER TERMINAL TO OBTAIN UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON BUS OPERATIONS FROM THE COMPANY'S MAIN COMPUTER.

ALSO, THE COMPANY WILL HAVE TO FOLLOW THE ACCOUNTING GUIDELINES AND PRACTICES LAID DOWN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

DEPRECIATION RATES FOR NLB'S FIXED ASSETS WILL BE SPECIFIED AND DISPOSAL WILL REQUIRE PRIOR APPROVAL.

PROFITS GENERATED FROM THE NLB'S TOUR SERVICE WILL BE USED TO SUBSIDISE THE FRANCHISED OPERATION.

THE NEW FRANCHISE WILL ALSO EMPOWER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO DIRECT THE NLB TO SHARE ITS TERMINI, BUS STOPS AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES WITH ANOTHER BUS OPERATOR IN THE EVENT THAT AN ADDITIONAL OPERATOR IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY.

THE GRANT OF A NEW FRANCHISE TO THE NLB FOR TWO YEARS HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

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GREEN PAPER ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO BE PUBLISHED

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THE TEXT OF A GREEN PAPER ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND MEN IS BEING FINALISED AND WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION AT THE END OF AUGUST.

AT A MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S AFFAIRS THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MRS STELLA HUNG, INFORMED MEMBERS THAT THE GREEN PAPER WOULD SERVE THREE MAIN PURPOSES.

AS A PUBLIC CONSULTATION DOCUMENT, IT IS A VEHICLE THROUGH WHICH MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY CAN EXPRESS VIEWS ON THE VARIOUS ISSUES INVOLVED.

SECONDLY, THE GREEN PAPER EXERCISE TO BE LAUNCHED NEXT MONTH ALSO HAS AN IMPORTANT EDUCATION VALUE.

THIRDLY, IT HELPS TO AROUSE PUBLIC INTEREST IN AND FOCUS PUBLIC ATTENTION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN, SHE SAID.

MRS HUNG SAID THE GOVERNMENT ADOPTED A NEUTRAL STAND IN THE PREPARATION OF THE GREEN PAPER.

EMPHASISING THE GOVERNMENT'S SINCERITY IN CONSULTING THE PUBLIC ON THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT, MRS HUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY AS THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN A SOCIETY IS, TO A LARGE EXTENT, DETERMINED BY THE ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTION OF ITS MEMBERS.

THE GREEN PAPER EXAMINES THE POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG AND THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO WOMEN IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF ACTIVITY.

IT ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH WHETHER, IN VIEW OF THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE, WOMEN AND MEN PARTICIPATE EQUALLY IN ALL FIELDS. THE DOCUMENT ALSO SETS OUT SOME POSSIBLE MEASURES TO FOSTER EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES.

AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE GREEN PAPER, THE CONSULTATION PERIOD IS EXPECTED TO TAKE FOUR MONTHS AND WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR.

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THREE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS GRANTED SELF-ACCREDITATION STATUS  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ALLOW THREE LOCAL TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS TO ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACCREDITING THEIR OWN DEGREE COURSES, SUBJECT TO PERIODIC EXTERNAL REVIEWS OF THEIR QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES BY THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE (UPGC).

THE INSTITUTIONS ARE THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC (HKP), THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG (CPHK) AND THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE (HKBC).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH SAID THIS FOLLOWED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THREE PANELS SET UP BY UPGC IN MAY LAST YEAR TO CARRY OUT INSTITUTIONAL REVIEWS OF THESE INSTITUTIONS IN JANUARY 1993.

"THE PANELS HAVE REPORTED FAVOURABLE ASSESSMENTS IN TERMS OF THEIR OVERALL INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE, CULTURE FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE, INTERNAL ACADEMIC QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEMS, AND INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE PANELS' RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE HKP, THE CPHK AND THE HKBC SHOULD BE GRANTED SELF-ACCREDITATION STATUS WERE ENDORSED BY THE UPGC AT ITS APRIL MEETING THIS YEAR.

DETAILED ARRANGEMENT AND TIMING OF IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE WORKED OUT BY THE UPGC AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THE UPGC WOULD UNDERTAKE, AT FIVE-YEARLY INTERVALS, EXTERNAL REVIEWS OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESSES, ATTITUDES AND PERFORMANCES AT ALL THE UPGC-FUNDED INSTITUTIONS.

THIS IS IN ADDITION TO REVIEWS OF SPECIFIC SUBJECT AREAS CONDUCTED BY THE UPGC REGULARLY.

"THE OBJECTIVE IS TO ENSURE THAT SOUND AND EFFECTIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT MECHANISMS ARE IN PLACE IN ALL UNIVERSITIES AND UPGC-FUNDED NON-UNIVERSITY TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS," HE SAID.

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FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR 1992/93 PUBLISHED

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THE GOVERNMENT'S FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1992/93, WHICH ENDED ON MARCH 31, 1993, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE OVERALL SURPLUS FOR 1992/93 WAS \$21.98 BILLION, WHICH IS CLOSE TO THE REVISED ESTIMATE OF \$20.55 BILLION FOR SURPLUS GIVEN IN THE 1993 BUDGET SPEECH.

"THIS BRINGS THE TOTAL FISCAL RESERVES AT MARCH 31 1993 TO JUST OVER \$121 BILLION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE ADDITIONAL SURPLUS ABOVE THE REVISED ESTIMATE WAS MADE UP OF A NUMBER OF MINOR VARIANCES IN BOTH REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

"TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE YEAR AMOUNTED TO \$135.31 BILLION, COMPARED TO A REVISED ESTIMATE OF \$135.65 BILLION WHILE TOTAL EXPENDITURE WAS \$113.33 BILLION, COMPARED TO A REVISED ESTIMATE OF \$115.10 BILLION," HE SAID.

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SANCTIONS AGAINST SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO STRENGTHENED

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AS FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY), A LICENCE ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE IS REQUIRED FOR ANY IMPORTS FROM, EXPORTS TO OR TRANSHIPMENT THROUGH CROATIA AND BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA.

THE REQUIREMENT WAS CONTAINED IN THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULES) ORDER 1993 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"THE FIRST AND SECOND SCHEDULES OF THE ORDER WERE REVISED TO IMPLEMENT THE SANCTIONS IMPOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH 12 OF RESOLUTION 820 (1993) ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON APRIL 17 THIS YEAR TO TIGHTEN SANCTIONS AGAINST SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO," PRINCIPAL TRADE OFFICER, MR JOHN LEUNG, EXPLAINED.

IN PURSUANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE WOULD NORMALLY REFUSE TO ISSUE LICENCES COVERING IMPORTS FROM, EXPORTS TO OR TRANSHIPMENT THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS PROTECTED AREAS IN CROATIA AND SERB-OCCUPIED AREAS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, HE SAID.

EXCEPTIONS WILL ONLY BE MADE TO GOODS THAT ARE ESSENTIAL HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED BY INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES OR GOODS THAT HAVE OBTAINED PROPER AUTHORISATION FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF CROATIA AND BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA RESPECTIVELY.

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED A CIRCULAR GIVING OUT DETAILS OF THE AMENDED SCHEDULES TO TRADERS, ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 398 5461 (FOR TEXTILES IMPORTS), 398 5471 (FOR TEXTILES EXPORTS) AND 398 5592 (FOR NON-TEXTILES IMPORTS AND EXPORTS).

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FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVES EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES FOR MARICULTURISTS

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, AT ITS MEETING TODAY (FRIDAY), APPROVED A PROPOSAL FOR THE PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO MARICULTURISTS AFFECTED BY DREDGING OR DUMPING PROJECTS, IN CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN EXTINGUISHMENT.

COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSAL, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID AS SUCH CURRENT PROJECTS IN INSHORE WATERS MAY CAUSE TEMPORARY DETERIORATION IN WATER QUALITY IN CERTAIN FISH CULTURE ZONES, SOME MARICULTURISTS MAY SUFFER TEMPORARY ECONOMIC LOSS.

HOWEVER, THERE IS NO EXISTING PROVISION FOR PAYMENT OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO MARICULTURISTS IN CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN EXTINGUISHMENT AND RELOCATION.

THE PROPOSAL THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT MARICULTURISTS SHOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES WHEN THE CONCENTRATION OF SOLID MATTER SUSPENDED IN THE AFFECTED WATERS OF FISH CULTURE ZONES EITHER :

- \* REACHES 100 PER CENT MORE THAN THE HIGHEST LEVEL RECORDED AT THE ZONE DURING THE FIVE YEARS BEFORE WORKS IN THE VICINITY START; OR
- \* REACHES 50 MG PER LITRE.

ELIGIBLE MARICULTURISTS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO MAKE AN IRREVOCABLE OPTION BEFORE ANY EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE IS PAID. THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO OPT TO :

- \* CONTINUE MARICULTURE IN THE SAME PLACE AT THEIR OWN RISK, IN WHICH CASE THEY WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR AN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE EQUIVALENT TO 50 PER CENT OF NOTIONAL LOSS OF INCOME FOR A NORMAL TWO-YEAR FISH CULTURE CYCLE; OR
- \* SUSPEND MARICULTURE OPERATIONS FOR TWO YEARS, IN WHICH CASE THEY WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR AN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE EQUIVALENT TO NOTIONAL LOSS OF INCOME FOR A NORMAL TWO-YEAR FISH CULTURE CYCLE; OR
- \* CEASE MARICULTURE OPERATIONS PERMANENTLY, IN WHICH CASE THEY WOULD RECEIVE THE EXISTING EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE PAYABLE FOR EXTINGUISHMENT, WHICH CONTAINS ELEMENTS FOR NOTIONAL LOSS OF INCOME FOR TWO YEARS AND LOSS OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN RAFTS AND CAGES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE OPTION WAS MADE IRREVOCABLE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SIMPLICITY AND TO PREVENT ABUSE AND THAT THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, AS THE REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR FISH CULTURE, WOULD ENSURE COMPLIANCE.

THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE NEW EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES WILL BE BACKDATED TO DECEMBER 1, 1992. THIS WILL ENABLE ALL MARICULTURISTS WHO MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT PROGRAMME OF WORKS TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT CLAIMS IF ELIGIBLE TO DO SO.

THE MAXIMUM FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR THIS EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE ARRANGEMENT IS ESTIMATED TO BE AROUND \$66.5 MILLION.

WAGE INDICES FOR MARCH

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THE OVERALL NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR MARCH THIS YEAR WAS 11.2 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MARCH LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

AFTER DISCOUNTING FOR INFLATION, THE OVERALL REAL WAGE INDEX FOR MARCH 1993 SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 3.2 PER CENT OVER MARCH 1992.

COMPARING MARCH 1993 WITH SEPTEMBER 1992, THE OVERALL WAGES SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 5.6 PER CENT IN NOMINAL TERMS. AFTER DISCOUNTING FOR INFLATION, THERE WAS AN INCREASE OF 2.6 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

ANALYSED BY INDIVIDUAL SECTORS, THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX IN TRANSPORT SERVICES SHOWED THE FASTEST YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE (12.6%), FOLLOWED BY BUSINESS SERVICES (12.1%), MANUFACTURING (11.3%), PERSONAL SERVICES (8.9%), AND WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS (8.2%).

COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1992, AND BEARING IN MIND THIS COMPARISON COULD BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, THE LARGEST INCREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE BUSINESS SERVICES (10.2%), FOLLOWED BY MANUFACTURING (5.1%), WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS (5.1%), PERSONAL SERVICES (4.7%), AND TRANSPORT SERVICES (3.6%).

THE WAGE INDICES ARE DERIVED FROM THE RESULTS OF THE HALF-YEARLY SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY COVERS BOTH MANUAL AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS (EXCLUDING EMPLOYEES AT ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS) IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES IN FIVE MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS.

A NEW SURVEY DESIGN WAS ADOPTED IN THE MARCH 1993 SURVEY WITH CHANGES MADE TO ITS INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION COVERAGE. THE BASE PERIOD OF THE WAGE INDICES, PREVIOUSLY TAKEN AS MARCH 1982, HAS BEEN CHANGED TO SEPTEMBER 1992.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT DREW ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WAGE INDICES AND THE INDICES OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED WHICH ARE PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IN ADDITION TO WAGES WHICH INCLUDE ALL THE REGULAR PAYMENTS, PAYROLL ALSO INCLUDES OVERTIME PAY AND OTHER NON-GUARANTEED AND IRREGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCE.

HENCE, STATISTICS ON PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED TEND TO BE SENSITIVE TO CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED, THE TIMING OF THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES AND BACK-PAY, AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE LABOUR FORCE.

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1993

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THE SURVEY FINDINGS ARE PUBLISHED IN A REPORT ON HALF-YEARLY SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS STATISTICS, VOLUME I, MARCH 1993.

COPIES OF THE REPORT WILL BE ON SALE SHORTLY AT \$16 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE; AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

VOLUME II OF THE REPORT CONTAINING DETAILED OCCUPATIONAL STATISTICS, SUCH AS WAGE RATES, NUMBER OF NORMAL HOURS OF WORK AND NUMBER OF STANDARD WORKING DAYS IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE IN MID-AUGUST 1993.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE WAGE INDICES, PLEASE CONTACT THE WAGES AND LABOUR COSTS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 4744 OR 582 5595.

THE NOMINAL AND REAL WAGE INDICES FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1992 TO MARCH 1993 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1 AND TABLE 2 RESPECTIVELY.

DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 3.

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/Table 1: .....

Table 1: Nominal Wage Indices by Selected Major Economic Sectors

Selected Major Economic Sectors	Indices (September 1992 = 100)				
	Mar. 1992*	Sep. 1992	Mar. 1993	% change Mar. 1993/ Sep. 1992	% change Mar. 1993/ Mar. 1992*
Manufacturing	94.4	100.0	105.1	+5.1	+11.3
Wholesale, Retail, Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	97.2	100.0	105.1	+5.1	+8.2
Transport Services	92.0	100.0	103.6	+3.6	+12.6
Business Services	98.3	100.0	110.2	+10.2	+12.1
Personal Services	96.1	100.0	104.7	+4.7	+8.9
All Sectors Above	95.0	100.0	105.6	+5.6	+11.2

\* The March 1992 indices (September 1992 = 100) are obtained from the March 1992 indices (March 1982 = 100) by using the splicing method. Note that comparison of the March 1992 and March 1993 figures are affected by differences in industry and occupation coverages.

/Table 2: .....

Table 2: Real Wage Indices by Selected Major Economic Sectors

Selected Major Economic Sectors	Indices (September 1992 = 100)				
	Mar. 1992*	Sep. 1992	Mar. 1993	% change Mar. 1993/ Sep. 1992	% change Mar. 1993/ Mar. 1992*
Manufacturing	98.8	100.0	102.1	+2.1	+3.4
Wholesale, Retail, Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	101.8	100.0	102.2	+2.2	+0.4
Transport Services	96.3	100.0	100.6	+0.6	+4.5
Business Services	102.9	100.0	107.1	+7.1	+4.1
Personal Services	100.7	100.0	101.7	+1.7	+1.0
All Sectors Above	99.5	100.0	102.6	+2.6	+3.2

\* The March 1992 indices (September 1992 = 100) are obtained from the March 1992 indices (March 1982 = 100) by using the splicing method. Note that comparison of the March 1992 and March 1993 figures are affected by differences in industry and occupation coverages.

/Table 3: .....

Table 3: Nominal Wage Indices for Major Industries in Manufacturing Sector

Major Industries in Manufacturing Sector	Indices (September 1992 = 100)				
	Mar. 1992*	Sep. 1992	Mar. 1993	% change Mar. 1993/ Sep. 1992	% change Mar. 1993/ Mar. 1992*
Garments	94.4	100.0	102.2	+2.2	+8.2
Cotton Spinning and Weaving	98.4	100.0	106.3	+6.3	+8.0
Cotton Knitting and Knit Outerwear	95.1	100.0	102.7	+2.7	+8.0
Bleaching and Dyeing	93.2	100.0	102.8	+2.8	+10.3
Paper Boxes	93.6	100.0	101.1	+1.1	+8.0
Printing	92.6	100.0	106.4	+6.4	+15.0
Plastic Products (excluding plastic toys)	-	100.0	104.0	+4.0	-
Plastic Toys	-	100.0	104.0	+4.0	-
Metal Products	-	100.0	106.7	+6.7	-
Electrical Appliances	94.9	100.0	106.8	+6.8	+12.6
Electronics	93.5	100.0	113.5	+13.5	+21.4
Photographic and Optical Goods	99.4	100.0	107.9	+7.9	+8.5
Watches and Clocks	94.3	100.0	107.3	+7.3	+13.7
Jewellery	94.9	100.0	107.3	+7.3	+13.0
Manufacturing Sector	94.4	100.0	105.1	+5.1	+11.3

\* The March 1992 indices (September 1992 = 100) are obtained from the March 1992 indices (March 1982 = 100) by using the splicing method. Note that comparison of the March 1992 and March 1993 figures are affected by differences in industry and occupation coverages.

AIDS IS EVERYBODY'S CONCERN

\* \* \* \* \*

AIDS IS A PROBLEM WHICH CONCERNS EVERYBODY AS THE RISE OF HETEROSEXUAL TRANSMISSION OF THE AIDS VIRUS (HIV) HAS BECOME THE MOST DOMINANT FEATURE OF THE AIDS PROBLEM IN THE TERRITORY.

THIS IS THE MESSAGE THAT THIS YEAR'S AIDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN WANTS TO PROMOTE.

ACTING DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR MARGARET CHAN, AT A PRESS LAUNCH OF THE 1993 AIDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TODAY (FRIDAY), SAID TWO NEW TV ANNOUNCEMENTS IN PUBLIC INTEREST (API'S) WOULD BE INTRODUCED.

DR CHAN SAID: "THE API'S FOCUS ON THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN, AND POSSIBLY FROM A MOTHER TO A CHILD."

"OUR NEW API'S DO NOT GIVE OUT HARD FACTS LIKE WHAT WE DID IN THE PAST. INSTEAD, THE AUDIENCE WOULD BE FACED WITH A SERIES OF QUESTIONS, WHICH WOULD VERY LIKELY LEAD TO SELF-ASSESSMENT OF HOW AIDS COULD CONCERN HIM - OR HERSELF," SHE ADDED.

DR CHAN POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE AIDS CAMPAIGN WAS DEVELOPED BY A PRIVATE ADVERTISING AGENCY - MCCANN ERICKSON (HK) LTD.

SHE MAINTAINED THAT THIS REFLECTED ALSO ON HOW THE COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY THE PROFESSIONALS, COULD BE INVOLVED IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST AIDS.

NOTING THAT "TIME TO ACT" HAD BEEN SET AS THE THEME OF THE COMING WORLD AIDS DAY, DR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS RESPONDING TO THIS CALL BY FINE-TUNING ITS EXPANDED AIDS PROGRAMME TO REACH EVERYONE IN THE SOCIETY.

SHE EMPHASISED THAT MEDIA PUBLICITY REPRESENTED ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME ON AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE IN THE TERRITORY AND THERE WERE SUPPORTIVE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY TARGETING DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE SOCIETY.

THE CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE MCCANN ERICKSON, MR KINGSLEY SMITH, SAID THE OVERALL MESSAGE OF THE TV API'S WAS "THINK ABOUT AIDS. IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU".

MR SMITH SAID: "OUR TASK WAS TO CONVINCE PEOPLE TO TAKE THE RISK OF CONTRACTING AIDS MORE SERIOUSLY, AND TO ENSURE THAT THEY AND THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WERE EQUALLY AWARE."

MR SMITH RECALLED THAT THERE WERE THREE PROBLEMS IN DEVELOPING AN ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN CONCERNING AIDS.

HE SAID: "THE FIRST OF THESE WAS THE NATURAL COMPLACENCY THAT EXISTS, THE FEELING THAT "IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME, OR TO EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY IN SOCIAL CIRCLE".

HE STRESSED THAT THE MISCONCEPTION THAT AIDS WAS CAUGHT BY THOSE WHO LIVED AN IMMORAL LIFE REINFORCED THE FIRST PROBLEM SINCE MOST PEOPLE REGARDED THEMSELVES AS DECENT PERSONS.

HE SAID THIS COMPLACENCY WAS VERY DANGEROUS AS PEOPLE WHO BELIEVED THAT AIDS COULD NOT HAPPEN TO THEM MAY NOT BE INCLINED TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS.

MR SMITH ENVISAGED THAT THE USE OF FEAR OR SENSATIONALISM WOULD FURTHER ALIENATE THE PUBLIC FROM THE ISSUE AND THEREFORE THE AGENCY DECIDED TO STIMULATE DISCUSSION IN A RATIONAL, BUT IMPACTFUL WAY, REFLECTING THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THE TV API'S WOULD BE SEEN - THE HOME.

HE SAID SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD HELP TO GET ACROSS THE IDEA THAT AIDS WAS A FAMILY ISSUE, WHICH SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BY THE FAMILY OPENLY.

MR SMITH CONCLUDED: "IF WE CAN GET PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT AIDS, OUR BELIEF IS THAT WE WILL HAVE SUCCEEDED IN HELPING TO CHECK THE SPREAD OF THIS TERRIBLE DISEASE IN HONG KONG.

IN ADDITION TO THE TWO TV API'S, RADIO API'S, SUPPORTING POSTERS AND LEAFLETS WHICH CARRIED THE SAME MESSAGE ARE ALSO PRODUCED.

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APPLICATIONS FOR CROSS-BORDER BUS/HIRE CAR SERVICE

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FROM OPREATORS WHO INTEND TO PROVIDE CROSS-BORDER BUS AND HIRE CAR SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA THROUGH LOK MA CHAU CONTROL POINT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING GIVING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- \* APPLICANT'S PERSONAL PARTICULARS, THAT IS NAME, IDENTITY DOCUMENT, ADDRESS AND CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND IN THE CASE OF A COMPANY, THE NAME OF THE PERSON(S) TO BE CONTACTED AND INFORMATION ON COMPANY REGISTRATION;
- \* DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF THE SERVICE, WITH THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES AND THEIR TYPE AND SEATING CAPACITY;
- \* PROPOSED SCHEDULES OF CROSSINGS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA, CROSSING TIME AT LOK MA CHAU CONTROL POINT, ROUTEING AND TERMINAL FACILITIES IN RESPECT OF CROSS-BORDER COACH SERVICE; AND

/\* DETAILS OF .....

- \* DETAILS OF PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS, THAT IS NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF HONG KONG AND MAINLAND PARTNERS AND DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE OF APPROVAL FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES FOR PROVIDING CROSS-BORDER BUS/HIRE CAR SERVICE.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT APPLICANTS SHOULD SUBMIT SIMULTANEOUS APPLICATIONS TO THE PUBLIC VEHICLE SECTION OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AT ROOM 28, MEZZANINE FLOOR, MURRAY ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 2 MURRAY ROAD, HONG KONG, AND THE COUNTRY PORT OF PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT OF SHENZHEN PORT OFFICE ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 7, 1993.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 801 5991.

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REVISED GUIDELINE ON MONEY LAUNDERING ISSUED

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THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY (HKMA) TODAY (FRIDAY) ISSUED A REVISED GUIDELINE ON MONEY LAUNDERING FOLLOWING THE PRIVY COUNCIL RULING ON MAY 19 THIS YEAR WHICH RESTORED THE LEGAL OBLIGATION ON AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS TO REPORT SUSPECTED CASES OF DRUG-RELATED MONEY LAUNDERING.

THE REVISED GUIDELINE GAZETTED TODAY REPLACES THE ONE THAT HAS BEEN IN FORCE SINCE MARCH 1989.

"IT PROVIDES MORE DETAILED ADVICE TO AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS ON HOW TO RECOGNISE AND COMBAT MONEY LAUNDERING," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HKMA SAID.

"IT WILL HELP TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG REMAINS IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARD IN THE FIGHT AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE GUIDELINE HAS TAKEN ACCOUNT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE.

IT HAS ALSO BEEN THE SUBJECT OF EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS AND THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ASSOCIATION.

"EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE REVISED GUIDELINE IS A RELEVANT AND COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT IT COMMANDS THE GENERAL SUPPORT OF THE BANKING INDUSTRY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ALL AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE IN PLACE INTERNAL CONTROLS TO ENABLE THEM TO COMPLY WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GUIDELINE," HE SAID.

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PUBLIC URGED TO HANDLE LPG INSTALLATIONS WITH CARE

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THE PUBLIC ARE BEING URGED TO HANDLE GAS INSTALLATIONS SUCH AS LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) CYLINDERS, COOKERS AND WATER HEATERS WITH CARE.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES (GAS STANDARDS OFFICE), MR CHAN SUI-JEUNG, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR CHAN POINTED OUT THAT SINCE MAY THIS YEAR, 21 PEOPLE WERE INJURED AND TWO WERE KILLED IN 12 FIRES INVOLVING LPG INSTALLATIONS.

HE SAID THE MAIN CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENTS WAS MISHANDLING OF GAS INSTALLATIONS AND LEAKAGE FROM GAS FITTINGS OR APPLIANCES.

THE LEAKAGE WAS MAINLY CAUSED BY CRACKED RUBBER TUBING, THE JAMMING OPEN OF LPG CYLINDER VALVES, IMPROPER FITTING OF REGULATORS AND MISUSE OF LPG CYLINDERS.

MR CHAN NOTED THAT THE INCIDENTS COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED THROUGH PROPER MAINTENANCE AND CAREFUL HANDLING OF THE INSTALLATIONS AND APPLIANCES.

"CRACKING OF A RUBBER TUBE IS OFTEN CAUSED BY "AGEING" OF THE TUBE. ALL RUBBER TUBES, AS PREVIOUSLY ADVISED BY THE GAS AUTHORITY, SHOULD BE REPLACED EVERY THREE YEARS," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN EXPLAINED THAT THE LIFE-SPAN OF A RUBBER TUBE COULD BE CHECKED BY REFERRING TO THE MARKINGS ON THE TUBE.

"LPG USERS SHOULD USE ONLY APPROVED TUBES WHICH HAVE THE MARKING OF GSO-RT-2. ALL TUBES WITHOUT THE MARKING SHOULD BE REPLACED BY A REGISTERED GAS CONTRACTOR," HE ADVISED.

HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT IMPROPER FITTING OF RUBBER TUBING COULD ALSO CAUSE A GAS LEAK. UNDER THE GAS SAFETY ORDINANCE ALL GAS INSTALLATION WORK MUST BE CARRIED OUT BY A REGISTERED GAS CONTRACTOR.

ON CYLINDER VALVE, MR CHAN SAID IT COULD BE JAMMED OPEN BY GRITS OR FOREIGN MATERIALS WHEN THE SEAL OF THE VALVE WAS REMOVED.

"THE VALVE SHOULD ALWAYS BE KEPT CLEAN. WHEN THE REGULATOR IS DISCONNECTED FROM THE VALVE FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME THE VALVE MUST BE CHECKED BEFORE USING," HE ADDED.

IN THE EVENT OF A GAS LEAK, MR CHAN ADVISED THE PUBLIC NOT TO TRY TO TAMPER WITH THE VALVE OR STOP THE LEAK BY THEMSELVES.

"THEY SHOULD CALL THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT (FSD) OR A GAS SUPPLY COMPANY," HE SAID.

HE ALSO WARNED THE PUBLIC AGAINST PUTTING LPG CYLINDERS ON OR NEAR ANY HEAT SOURCES AS HEATING UP OF THE CYLINDERS BY EXTERNAL SOURCES WAS VERY DANGEROUS.

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IN CASE OF A GAS LEAK FROM LPG CYLINDERS AND APPLIANCES, MR CHAN CONTINUED, PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE PANIC OR IGNITE ANY HEAT SOURCES, OR TOUCH ANY ELECTRICAL SWITCH.

"THEY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY TURN OFF THE REGULATOR SWITCH, OPEN ALL THE WINDOWS, LEAVE THE HOUSE AND CALL THE FSD," HE NOTED.

HE REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO TURN OFF ALL THE SWITCHES WHEN THEY WERE NOT USING A HOTPLATE OR WERE GOING OUT.

ANYONE IN DOUBT OF THE CONDITIONS OF HIS LPG APPLIANCES OR CYLINDERS SHOULD HAVE THE INSTALLATIONS CHECKED BY A REGISTERED GAS CONTRACTOR, HE SAID.

A LIST OF REGISTERED GAS CONTRACTORS IS KEPT AT THE GAS STANDARDS OFFICE OF THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND ENQUIRY CAN BE MADE ON TEL 895 8775.

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APPOINTMENTS TO HK EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY

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THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MR KENNETH FANG HUNG HAS BEEN RE-APPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM WITH EFFECT FROM NEXT MONTH.

MR FANG, A BUSINESSMAN, HAS SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE AUTHORITY SINCE 1979, AND AS CHAIRMAN SINCE 1990.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN WILL BE MR TAM MAN-KWAN, PRINCIPAL OF YUEN LONG PAK KAU SECONDARY SCHOOL. MR TAM HAS SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE AUTHORITY SINCE 1981.

THE FOLLOWING SERVING MEMBERS HAVE ALSO BEEN RE-APPOINTED:

- \* A PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER
- \* MRS ELIM LAU, PRINCIPAL OF DIOCESAN GIRLS' SCHOOL
- \* MR PETER LEE SHUNG-TAK, PRINCIPAL OF CARITAS ST. FRANCIS PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL
- \* MRS WINNIE HUNG LAM WING-YAN, A TEACHER IN ST. MARY'S CANOSSIAN COLLEGE
- \* DR ALEXANDER FUNG CHI-WAH, PRINCIPAL OF LOK SIN TONG KU CHIU MAN SECONDARY SCHOOL
- \* MR LEE PUN-CHO, PRINCIPAL OF LEE KAU YAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL
- \* DR LUI MING-WAH, A BUSINESSMAN

/\* MRS YAN .....

- \* MRS YAN HO SIU-WAN, A TEACHER IN YAN CHAI HOSPITAL LIM POR YEN SECONDARY SCHOOL
- \* DR TSE KA-KUI, A BUSINESSMAN
- \* MR CHAN PUI-TIN, A TEACHER IN WAH YAN COLLEGE
- \* MRS ALICE CHENG YAU SHUK-KI, PRINCIPAL OF NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

THE FOLLOWING WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:

- \* VICE-CHANCELLOR OF EACH UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG BY ENACTMENT, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
- \* DIRECTOR OF EACH POLYTECHNIC ESTABLISHED IN HONG KONG BY ENACTMENT, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
- \* PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
- \* PRESIDENT OF THE LINGNAN COLLEGE, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
- \* CHAIRMAN OF THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
- \* EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
- \* DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE
- \* SECRETARY OF THE AUTHORITY

THE ABOVE APPOINTMENTS ARE ALSO FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM STARTING AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR.

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WSD CUSTOMER LIAISON GROUP HOLDS FIRST MEETING

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN A MAJOR STEP FORWARD TO PROMOTE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND ITS CUSTOMERS BY FORMING A CUSTOMER LIAISON GROUP.

THE FORMATION OF THE LIAISON GROUP REPRESENTS ANOTHER EFFORTS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT TO FURTHER IMPROVE ITS SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

THE GROUP IS CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WU YU-NGONG, AND COMPRISES 20 CUSTOMER MEMBERS RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM THE COMPUTERISED DATABASE OF WATER CONSUMER ACCOUNTS.

FIFTEEN OF THEM WERE SELECTED FROM DOMESTIC CONSUMERS OF DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS, WHILE THE REMAINING FIVE FROM SOME 6,000 MONTHLY-BILLED TRADE CONSUMERS.

THE GROUP HELD ITS FIRST MEETING THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING WERE THREE ASSISTANT DIRECTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING, AS WELL AS SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION, A BUSINESS MANAGER AND THE SENIOR STAFF MEMBERS.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE BRIEFED ON THE ORGANISATION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSIONS ON CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS RAISED BY THE MEMBERS.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED WITH A DINNER HOSTED BY THE CHAIRMAN AND THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR HU MAN-SHIU.

THE GROUP'S SECOND MEETING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER, ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

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#### RESERVOIR SITE FORMATION STARTS IN OCTOBER

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SITE FORMATION WORKS OF THE TUNG CHUNG FRESH WATER RESERVOIR.

THE RESERVOIR IS PART OF THE PROJECT TO PROVIDE WATER TO NORTH LANTAU AND TO ALLOW WATER TRANSFER BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH LANTAU.

OTHER WORKS ITEMS OF THE PROJECT, WHICH FORM PART OF THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME, INCLUDE A WATER TREATMENT PLANT, PUMPING STATIONS, RAW WATER LAND AND SUBMARINE MAINS AND DISTRIBUTION WATER MAINS.

THE SERVICE RESERVOIR WILL HAVE AN INITIAL CAPACITY OF 40,000 CUBIC METRES AND AN ULTIMATE CAPACITY OF 75,000 CUBIC METRES TO PROVIDE TREATED WATER TO THE EXISTING COMMUNITY IN TUNG CHUNG, THE TUNG CHUNG NEW TOWN AND THE NEW AIRPORT.

THE SITE FORMATION WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO START IN OCTOBER, TAKING 10 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CONSULTANTS' OFFICE ON THE THIRD FLOOR, ASIAN HOUSE, 1 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON AUGUST 20.

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FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1993

- 25 -

FARES FOR TWO MINIBUS ROUTES UP  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM SUNDAY (JULY 25), THE FARES OF KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 38M AND 39M WILL BE INCREASED BY 10 CENTS.

THE REVISION IS TO IMPROVE THEIR FINANCIAL VIABILITY.

THE NEW FARES ARE:

	GMB ROUTE -----	NEW FARE -----	EXISTING FARE -----
38M	CHUK YUEN (NORTH) ESTATE TO WONG TAI SIN MTR STATION (SHATIN PASS ROAD)	\$1.70	\$1.60
39M	LOK FU MTR STATION TO TUNG TAU (CIRCULAR)	\$1.80	\$1.70

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LAYING OF SUBMARINE CABLE PROPOSED  
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SUBMARINE CABLE WILL BE LAID BETWEEN PENG CHAU AND HEI LING CHAU TO IMPROVE THE TELEPHONE SERVICE FOR THE TWO ISLANDS.

UNDER THE PROJECT, THE HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED INTENDS TO LAY AN OPTICAL FIBRE SUBMARINE CABLE WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 25 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED BETWEEN PENG CHAU AND HEI LING CHAU.

THE WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO START IN OCTOBER FOR COMPLETION IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR.

THE EXTENT OF THE AFFECTED AREA IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 23 THIS YEAR.

THE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH THE RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE.

/THE PLAN .....

THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT:

- \* BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD;
- \* ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, 20TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;
- \* THE MUI WO SUB-OFFICE OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, MUI WO GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2 NGAN KWONG WAN ROAD, MUI WO, LANTAU ISLAND; AND
- \* CHEUNG CHAU SUB-OFFICE OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 22 SAN HING STREET, CHEUNG CHAU.

COPIES OF THE PLAN CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

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#### DRUG ABUSE HOTLINE EXPANDS

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OWING TO LARGE NUMBER OF CALLERS USING THE AUTOMATED ENQUIRY HOTLINE ON DRUG ABUSE, THE NARCOTICS DIVISION HAS RECENTLY INSTALLED FOUR MORE TELEPHONE LINES TO MEET THE DEMAND.

NOW THE HOTLINE HAS EIGHT LINES WITH PRE-RECORDED MESSAGES IN CANTONESE ON 12 TYPES OF COMMON SUBSTANCES OF ABUSE.

INFORMATION ON DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES IS ALSO ON OFFER.

THE HOTLINE - 366 8822 - HAS BEEN AUTOMATED SINCE FEBRUARY 5 THIS YEAR UNDER A VOICE MESSAGING SYSTEM (VMS). SINCE THEN, THE NUMBER OF CALLERS HAS AVERAGED SOME 1,500 A DAY.

THE DECISION WAS MADE BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS AFTER A CAREFUL REVIEW OF THE NEED.

"WE HOPE MORE PEOPLE CAN BE TOLD OF THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

CALLERS MAY LISTEN TO THE VOICE MENU INSTRUCTING THEM TO CHOOSE A PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE BY PRESSING A SUITABLE NUMBER.

THE CODES FOR THE 12 TYPES OF COMMON SUBSTANCES OF ABUSE ARE FOLLOW:

CODE	SUBSTANCE OF ABUSE
1	HEROIN
2	CANNABIS
3	LSA
4	TRANQUILLIZERS
5	BARBITURATES
6	MANDRAX
7	AMPHETAMINES
8	COCAINE
91	ORGANIC SOLVENTS
92	NICOTINE/TOBACCO
93	ALCOHOL
94	COUGH MEDICINES

BY PRESSING THE DIGIT "0" DURING OFFICE HOURS, CALLERS WILL BE CONNECTED TO THE OPERATOR WHO WILL ADVISE THEM ON WHAT DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES THEY CAN GET.

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EDUCATION COLLEGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS  
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR IMPROVEMENT WORKS AT NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT.

THE PROJECT INVOLVES REDEVELOPING THE LIBRARY BLOCK, CONVERTING THE WARDEN'S BLOCK INTO CLASSROOMS, IMPROVING FACILITIES IN THE CANTEEN AND UPGRADING THE POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM.

WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START AROUND SEPTEMBER FOR COMPLETION IN 16 MONTHS.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON AUGUST 13.

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REGISTRATION FORMS FOR OVERSEAS UK ELECTORS

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FORMS AND EXPLANATORY LEAFLETS FOR REGISTRATION AS AN OVERSEAS ELECTOR IN UK PARLIAMENTARY AND EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE HONG KONG IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.

"BRITISH CITIZENS LIVING IN HONG KONG MAY CONTACT THE INFORMATION OFFICE OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ON SECOND FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG BY WRITING OR IN PERSON," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

UNDER THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT OF 1989, THE QUALIFYING PERIOD FOR THE RIGHT TO VOTE FOR PEOPLE LIVING ABROAD HAS BEEN EXTENDED FROM FIVE TO 20 YEARS.

THAT MEANS IF A BRITISH CITIZEN LEFT THE UK AS LONG AGO AS OCTOBER 1973, HE CAN STILL VOTE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED TO DECLARE AN INTENTION TO RETURN TO THE UK AND THE VOTE WILL BE CAST IN THE CONSTITUENCY IN WHICH HE OR HIS FAMILY WERE REGISTERED BEFORE LEAVING THE UK, HE ADDED.

PEOPLE WHO LEFT THE UK BEFORE THEY WERE OLD ENOUGH TO BE INCLUDED ON THE ELECTORAL REGISTER MAY REGISTER AS OVERSEAS ELECTORS.

IN ORDER TO QUALIFY, POTENTIAL ELECTORS WILL HAVE TO FILL IN AN APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN IT DIRECT TO THEIR ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICE BY OCTOBER 10 THIS YEAR (SEPTEMBER 15 IF THEY WERE PREVIOUSLY RESIDENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND).

THE SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO BRITISH CITIZENS TO INFORM ANYONE THEY KNOW LIVING ABROAD ABOUT THIS.

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CLOSURE OF UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE SOUGHT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IN CAUSEWAY BAY SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT CAUSING DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IS USED AS A SHOP AT THE COMMON AREA ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF PEARL CITY MANSION AT 22-36 PATERSON STREET AND 25-29 GREAT GEORGE STREET.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON AUGUST 18 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (FRIDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK OF THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IS EXPECTED TO START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE ORDER IS ISSUED.

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FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
\* \* \* \* \*

	\$ MILLION
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,510
REVERSAL OF LAF	+490
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-20
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,980
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.5 *-0.1* 23.7.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.32 PCT	13 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.60	3.83
1 MONTH	2.60 PCT	16 MONTHS	2411	4.625	100.76	4.06
3 MONTHS	3.15 PCT	19 MONTHS	2502	4.75	100.76	4.28
6 MONTHS	3.45 PCT	22 MONTHS	2505	3.75	98.74	4.53
12 MONTHS	3.80 PCT					
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 24,545 MN						
CLOSED JULY 23, 1993						

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